

## **VIRGINIA WAR ORPHANS EDUCATION PROGRAM**

### **ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

The Virginia War Orphans Education Program provides educational assistance for children, or surviving children, of certain veterans. To be eligible for assistance under this program, an applicant must meet the following basic eligibility requirements:

#### **MILITARY SERVICE & DISABILITY REQUIREMENTS**

One of the applicant's parents must have served in the armed forces of the United States; and must be permanently and totally disabled due to war or other armed conflict; or

One of the applicant's parents must have died as a result of war or other armed conflict; or

One of the applicant's parents must be listed as a prisoner of war (POW) or missing in action (MIA).

#### **VIRGINIA RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS**

The applicant's parent, on which eligibility is based, must have been a resident of the Commonwealth of Virginia at the time of entry into active military service; or

The applicant's parent, on which eligibility is based, must have been a resident of the Commonwealth of Virginia for at least five (5) consecutive years immediately prior to the date of application or death; or

The surviving parent must have been a citizen of Virginia for at least five (5) years prior to marrying the deceased parent, or must have been a citizen of Virginia for at least five (5) consecutive years immediately prior to the date on which application was submitted by or on behalf of such child for admission to any educational or training institution in this Commonwealth.

#### **OTHER REQUIREMENTS**

The applicant must be no less than sixteen (16) years of age, and no more than twenty-five (25) years of age.

The applicant must use this entitlement to attend either a Virginia state supported secondary or post-secondary educational institution.

Eligible individuals are entitled to a maximum of forty-eight (48) months of tuition-free education and required fees at any Virginia state supported secondary or post-secondary educational institution.

Individuals entitled to this benefit may use it to pursue any vocational, technical, undergraduate or graduate program of instruction. Generally, programs listed in the academic catalogs of institutions are acceptable, provided they have a clearly defined educational objective, i.e., certificate, diploma, or degree.